



For Release: April 25, 2008

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Third Baptist Church Midwest Premiere of Karl Jenkins' *Requiem* Raises Funds for Local Disabled Veterans *The groundbreaking concert is part of the 2008 Memorial Day observance*

ST. LOUIS -- Third Baptist Church will present **Karl Jenkins' *Requiem***, at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 18, in the historic sanctuary located at the corner of Grand and Washington in the Grand Center Arts District. The concert is free and open to the public and also will include an opportunity to donate money to assist local veterans.

The Midwest premiere of the *Requiem* features the 45-voice chancel choir accompanied by an orchestra of flute/shakuhachi, horns, strings, harp, timpani and percussion. *Requiem* will be conducted by choir director Allyn Dault.

Admission is free but a suggested donation of \$5 will be collected with 100% of donations going to support the John Cochran Veterans Hospital's Disabled American Veterans Transportation Fund. Donations will be used to buy and maintain vehicles operated by volunteer drivers who provide transportation for veterans to medical appointments.

ABOUT THE CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA: The Third Baptist Church Chancel Choir is made up of 45 volunteer members with a long history of performing a diverse repertoire of choral works, often with orchestra. Past works include the *Requiems* of Mozart, Faure and Brahms, the *Glorias* of Poulenc, Vivaldi and Rutter, Handel's *Messiah*, and more contemporary pieces such as Robert Shaw's *The Many Moods of Christmas*, Brooklyn Tabernacle's "*Live...Again*" and Robert Ray's *Gospel Mass*.

ABOUT KARL JENKINS' *REQUIEM*: In his *Requiem*, Jenkins interpolates the usual movements of the *Requiem Mass* (a Mass for the souls of the dead) with a series of *haiku* "death" poems in Japanese, moving between the liturgical view of death and the Japanese view of nature's water cycle being synonymous with life. As the work progresses the contrasting spheres move closer together, with the last two haiku settings appearing within the *Benedictus* and *Agnus Dei*. The instrumentation adopts a deliberate oriental air, with Japanese *shakuhachi*, Arabic darabuka, Japanese daiko and frame drums. *Music Week* calls it "the ultimate in postmodern Requiems."

Third Baptist Church/Karl Jenkins *Requiem* Concert
April 25, 2008

Choral Review says "Jenkins' gift for writing solid melodies according to the mood of the text is profound." Visit <http://www.boosey.com/pages/cr/composer/sample.asp?musicid=47412> to sample the music of Karl Jenkins' *Requiem*.

ABOUT KARL JENKINS: Karl Jenkins was born in Wales and educated at Gowerton Grammar School before reading music at the University of Wales, Cardiff and pursuing postgraduate studies at London's Royal Academy of Music.

It was in jazz that Jenkins initially made his mark, with his group Nucleus winning first prize at the Montreux Jazz Festival, followed by a period with Soft Machine, one of the seminal bands of the '70s, playing venues such as Carnegie Hall, Royal Albert Hall and the Reading Festival.

After a period as a media composer, including U.S. and global campaigns for De Beers and Delta Airlines, Jenkins returned to the music mainstream with his highly successful *Adiemus* project. Combining a classical base with ethnic vocal sounds, ethnic percussion and an invented language, *Adiemus* topped classical and pop charts around the world, gaining 17 gold and platinum album awards.

In 2005, Jenkins scored the feature film **River Queen** starring Kiefer Sutherland & Samantha Morton. The soundtrack won the Golden Goblet Award for best score at the Shanghai Film Festival. The recent CD release of his *Requiem*, which premiered in London in June 2005, climbed to No.1 on the UK classical charts. His most recent project was this year's premiere of his *Stabat Mater* at Liverpool Cathedral.

Jenkins holds a doctorate in music degree from the University of Wales, where he has been named both a Fellow and an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music and has a room named in his honor. He has fellowships at Cardiff University, the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, Trinity College-Carmarthen and the Swansea Institute. Classic FM also presented Jenkins with the 'Red f' award for 'outstanding service to classical music'.

Jenkins was recently awarded an honorary doctorate in music from the University of Leicester, the Chancellors Medal from the University of Glamorgan and two Honorary visiting professorships -- at Thames Valley University/London College of Music and ATriUM, Cardiff.

He also was awarded an OBE, by Her Majesty the Queen, in the 2005 New Years Honours List "for services to music".

Editor's Note: For more information or to schedule an interview about the concert, contact Leslie Limbaugh at (314) 533-7340.

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